



## NEWS RELEASE

### Media Contact:

Greg Risling  
Public Information Officer  
213-974-3525  
[GRisling@da.lacounty.gov](mailto:GRisling@da.lacounty.gov)  
Twitter: @LADAOOffice

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## Man Charged With Carjacking, Attempted Carjacking in Televised Chase

A 29-year-old man was charged today with carjacking and other counts after he is accused of leading police on a wild, high-speed chase that ended in Montebello, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Aaron Lorta (dob 5/27/85) was charged with one count of carjacking, three counts of attempted carjacking and one count of fleeing a pursuing police officer's vehicle while driving recklessly in case BA433624. Arraignment will be scheduled at a later date.

Prosecutors said the police pursuit began after 5 p.m. Monday in Boyle Heights after officers saw Lorta who was sitting in a vehicle and tried to talk to him. Lorta drove away quickly and he was followed by officers who suspected the car may have been stolen.

Lorta drove at a high rate of speed through downtown Los Angeles and is suspected of striking several vehicles. At Imperial Highway and Garfield Avenue, he allegedly hit another vehicle and fled on foot. He is accused of pointing a gun at a motorist and stealing her car, prosecutors added.

Lorta then drove erratically before getting out of the car that was trapped in heavy traffic. Police officers pursued him on foot as Lorta is suspected of trying to carjack two other drivers. Lorta's attempts were unsuccessful and officers said they saw a gun in Lorta's hand and opened fire, striking him several times.

Prosecutors are asking that bail be set at \$615,000. If convicted as charged, Lorta faces up to 27 years, 10 months in state prison.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles Police Department.

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**About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office**

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to seeking justice for victims of crime and enhancing public safety. Last year, the [Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office](#) prosecuted more than 71,000 felony defendants and nearly 112,000 misdemeanor defendants.